

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*):

(a) Yes.

:(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a).

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): How many societies are there?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I want to correct that answer by giving an explanatory answer. There are societies with multiple activities, but they are not multiple purpose co-operative societies, i. e., in the bye-laws of all village societies, there is provision for different activities the societies have to indulge in. But very few societies have begun to act according to their bye-laws. I shall name a few such societies, Eriyad Industrial Co-operative Society, the Cranganur Industrial Co-operative Society, the Kunnankulam Industrial Co-operative Society, the Karupadanna Society, the Mullanthuruthi Co-operative Society and the Matam Society, etc.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): I suppose the Government gives loans to all these societies.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Some of them are given.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): How many have applied?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I want notice.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): Have they undertaken more than one activity?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Yes.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): Will it not be the policy of the Government to give loans if any society comes forward?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): According to the availability of funds.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—ORGANISATION OF.

124. **Mr. M. K. Devassy** (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of societies organised on the recommendations of the Economic Survey Report under the following heads—

- (1) weaving;
- (2) coir industry;

(3) rural reconstruction;

(4) poultry farming;

(b) the nature and scope of the part played by the Government in the organisation and working of the societies mentioned above?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*):

(a) (1) 5.

(2) 5.

(3) 5+(1 to be started).

(4) 3.

(b) The Government have been active in organising and rendering all facilities, for the successful working of such societies.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Can I take it that these Societies are initiated by private agencies and aided by Government?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Yes.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): What is the kind of aid that the Government gives to these societies?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): The Government help them in organising and render them technical advice. This is all the help that the Government can render.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Do all the societies mentioned here, receive aid from Government?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I want notice.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (*Vadakkancheri*): Has the Government any programme for the disposal of the products supplied by these societies?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): We have appointed some marketing officers and they are investigating these matters and the results of their investigation will be placed before us within a fortnight. That is the latest report I got. Marketing is a very difficult problem and they are making investigations and as soon as those investigations are over, definite information will be available.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): In how many Co-operative Societies have the Government appointed paid secretaries?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Unless notice is given before, it will be impossible to give definite figures. If hon'ble members will give me a hint, I will certainly come prepared with this information. Do not think I am trying to evade by simply saying 'notice, notice'. I am constrained again to ask previous notice in such matters.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): There were certain societies where Government had appointed some paid secretaries. Do the Government intend to continue or extend the practice?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Oh, Yes. When there was an application recently, I refused the request. Since I took charge, I do not encourage such applications. This application was for a fixed period and the grant was given for a fixed period. But the period was not yet over. Therefore, naturally I could not interfere in the matter. We cannot lay down a hard and fast rule. Generally this kind of help will not be encouraged. To give 100 to 200 rupees to each society which ought to be self-supporting, if it is an industrial institution, I do not think is a proper line for the Government to take. While we are willing to give loans, in the matter of giving grants I shall be very reluctant, because I cannot dole out public money for this society or that society.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait (*Mattancheri*): May I know, of all the societies, which is running in better condition?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): It is only after a thorough investigation, that a definite reply could be given. I shall answer this question at the next Council. In the meanwhile, I will go and see the working. Since the contrary has not been brought to my notice, it may be presumed that all the societies are working properly.

DEPRESSED CLASS STUDENTS—ST. THOMAS' COLLEGE.

125. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the names of students from among the 'Depressed Classes' who joined the Junior Intermediate Class in the St. Thomas' College at the beginning of the current academic year;

(b) the community to which each of them belong;

(c) the educational concessions or stipends granted by the Government to each of them and the dates when orders giving concessions were passed;